



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 21, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: Mayor: Charlie Miner; Council: Deirdre Kvale, Michelle Jerde, Jahn Dyvik, and Tom Skjaret

Staff Present: City Administrator: Scott Weske; Planning Consultant: PeggySue Imihy; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S COMMENTS - LONG LAKE NEWS, MEETING REVIEW AND UPDATES

Mayor Miner offered the following comments and updates:

The EDA met prior to the Council meeting and approved the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the property at 1905 W Wayzata Boulevard, formerly the BP station property. The RFP will be issued on December 2 to those who may be interested in purchasing and developing the property for commercial and other uses. Interested parties are encouraged to contact EDA Executive Director/City Administrator Weske.

Mayor Miner reported he'd recently had lunch with Congressman Dean Phillips to discuss Long Lake and areas where the City may need the Congressman's support or assistance. Following their lunch meeting, both Mayor Miner and Congressman Phillips had attended a Highway 12 Safety Coalition meeting in Delano. Congressman Phillips has committed to being active in working towards funding of safety improvements in the Highway 12 corridor further west. At the Safety Coalition meeting, a County proposal for how to re-do the County Road 92 interchange area and improve safety was discussed.

Long Lake Fire Department members are having a "No Shave November" competition growing out beards throughout the month. A GoFundMe page has been established seeking pledges in support of competitors, with donations to benefit the Long Lake Fire Relief Association. Information is on the Fire Department's Facebook page.

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Dyvik, seconded by Jerde, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of November 4, 2019 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of November 4, 2019 City Council Meeting
- C. Receive Minutes of October 22, 2019 Economic Development Authority Meeting

- D. Approve the Deferred Interest Rate of 0% for Calendar Year 2020 for all Deferred Members Whose Retirement is Still With the Long Lake Volunteer Fire Relief Association and Who Retired After January 1, 2012
- E. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- F. Authorize Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Water Patrol to Issue a Special Event Permit to Birch's on the Lake for Use of Long Lake to Host "Sled Dog Sundays" on Sundays During January and February 2020, Subject to Conditions Stated in the Staff Report Dated November 21, 2019
- G. Adopt Resolution No. 2019-49 Appointing Amanda Nowezki to the Position of Full-Time Finance/Utility Officer for the City of Long Lake

Responding to Council member Kvale's question, Weske clarified the intent of setting a 2020 deferred interest rate of 0% for those deferred Fire Relief Association members whose retirement is still with the association.

Council member Kvale noted for the record that she had participated in the Finance/Utility Officer position interviews and had some reservations about the candidate proposed to be hired, though she understood that others had been impressed by her. She reiterated she would like her reservations to be recorded.

A motion was made by Skjaret, seconded by Jerde, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Dan MacDonald, 335 Russell Lane – Mr. MacDonald displayed a graphic depicting the site of the reinstalled speed monitoring sign and pointed out obstacles preventing the radar beam from accurately measuring traffic speeds. He noted that he thinks the location of the sign should be further west. Council discussed the interference issues with the sign's operation, and Mayor Miner asked that Administrator Weske follow up with Public Works Director Diercks to obtain a response from the County and make sure measures are taken for the sign to work properly.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Presentation of "You Make Long Lake Proud" Award – Recognizing Gina and Scott Davis, 'Dog Threads'

Mayor Miner introduced Gina Davis of 'Dog Threads', explaining that Gina and Scott Davis had recently appeared on ABC's "Shark Tank" and achieved an investment in their company. Gina and Scott Davis reside in Long Lake, and their business is located in the Orono Station building in Orono. A KSTP broadcast highlighting the Davis' success story was shown via the projector. Mayor Miner presented Gina Davis with a "You Make Long Lake Proud" award congratulating her and Scott on their appearance on ABC's "Shark Tank" resulting in achieving an investment in "Dog Threads"; celebrating their creativity, inspiration, and innovation in their exciting business venture; and recognizing them as residents for truly making Long Lake proud.

Ms. Davis spoke about their current location, their experiences on "Shark Tank" and in the days that followed, and about their hopes to move into a larger location in the future.

Planning Case #2019-15 / Request for the Approval of a Master Development Plan for a Planned Unit Development, a Rezoning to a Planned Unit Development, a Preliminary Plat and a Variance to Allowable Building Height for the Lakeside Row Townhome Project to be Located at 1843, 1877, 1885 and 1895 Symes Street (Lifestyle Communities, LLC)

Planning Consultant Imihy introduced the applications and proposal to construct an 11-unit townhome community on four lots located at 1843, 1877, 1885 and 1895 Symes Street. The four lots currently have three single family homes on them that would be removed for the proposed redevelopment.

Imihy presented a detailed overview of the applicant's requests for a rezoning to Planned Unit Development; a required PUD Master Development Plan and Preliminary Plat which would entail replatting the four parcels into one townhome style plat including 11 owner occupied townhomes surrounded by an outlot maintained to be maintained by a homeowner's association; and a request for a variance from the 35 foot maximum building height to allow for an elevator or staircase shaft providing rooftop patio access to owners. Expanding on the building height variance request, she provided an example of how building height is calculated and explained the difference in calculating building height for a structure with a flat roof versus a sloped roof. The flat roofed townhomes proposed would be 34.5 feet in height from grade to top of parapet, and 41.5 feet in height in certain areas to accommodate the elevator or staircase rooftop access points. The developer's intent in requesting the variance was to be responsive to previous concern expressed by Council about a development overwhelming the adjacent public park; however, setback requirements from the property line in a PUD district do not allow for a deck or front porch to be incorporated in the proposed project.

Ben Landhauser, Lifestyle Communities, confirmed that the first owner of a townhome would have the choice of whether to build with an elevator or not, and the staircase access points would all be constructed to accommodate an elevator shaft should a future owner desire to add an elevator to their unit. He also clarified that since packet material submission, the project's site plan has been updated to include a total of two stormwater filtration basins to pretreat runoff before it enters the storm sewer system for further filtering before traveling to the lake. Soil borings are scheduled for December 10, with data to be provided to the MCWD; however, the current plan for two filtration basins is likely as it is assumed soils will dictate that filtration basins would be preferred by the MCWD. Landhauser responded to Council questions regarding how the filtration basins would function to serve the development.

Imihy reviewed an existing conditions map, described tree removals and landscaping to be implemented per the proposal, and reviewed the overall site layout depicted in the Preliminary Plat. She advised that the outlot area would be dedicated to the City as a drainage and utility easement, with the homeowners' association responsible for maintenance, snow removal and mowing. She noted the applicant has agreed to add an additional hydrant at the Fire Chief's request on the southeast side of the site along Symes Street, and has agreed to equip the garages with a fire suppression system. She highlighted engineering comments that staff would recommend be included as conditions of approval. She clarified that the project would be bordered by a sidewalk and curb along Symes Street, refuse containers will be stored inside, and most of the area in the rear behind the garages is dedicated for greenspace.

Imihy reported that at their meeting last week, the Planning Commission completed their design review, found the proposed project met the Village Design Guidelines requirements with use of no more than four types of surface materials and implementing neutral colors, and voted to approve the Village Design Worksheet as submitted. The Planning Commission also recommended approval

of the developer's applications by majority vote. She reviewed the criteria to be considered for approval of the applicant's requests, and indicated staff is recommending approval of the project.

Landhauser displayed a site plan exhibit overlayed with landscaping, civil engineering and circulation information. He clarified the location of sidewalks and concrete curb and gutter around the periphery of the site; and responded to Council member questions regarding the functionality and plantings for the filtration basins, location of utility infrastructure to serve the site, clarified construction plans for the optional additional garage buildings, and introduced Chad Hayes with Denali Custom Builders while explaining that the price point of the units could range from \$700,000 to \$900,000 in relation to the custom home finishes offered by Denali that may be selected by owners. He provided further information regarding the layout and use of the centralized stairwell and elevator shaft areas to be included in the units, displaying example floor plans for unit layout, and highlighting the rooftop deck levels which would offer about 600 square feet of outdoor space with lake views.

Council member Kvale questioned whether there had been any feedback from neighbors at the Planning Commission meeting.

Landhauser replied that a neighbor had been in attendance who did not speak at the hearing, however after the meeting, the neighbor had mentioned that the rooftop space was a great thing in his mind because when his current neighbors in the existing rental homes are outside or cooking outside, they did not have similar interests and the idea of having neighbors up and away enjoying their outdoor spaces was appealing to him. Landhauser clarified that with regard to the single family home located to the east of the project site, the east edge of the proposed buildings would actually be further away than the existing house is situated now.

Tim Nichols, Lifestyle Communities, spoke regarding the anticipated marketing process for unit sales, indicated that they are expecting it is likely a lottery process for the Zvago cooperative project may be extended to include options for townhome purchases. He believes the project will be well received in the marketplace and will be situated in price point favorably in relation to the Zvago cooperative and Charles Cudd single family homes to be constructed. He also noted that working with Denali brings a tremendous backlog of individuals they've built homes for in the past who may be looking to downsize.

Mayor, Council, staff and the applicant continued to discuss the overall appearance of the site, location of greenspace, cost of an elevator structure, the row house concept being employed in the design, indoor storage of refuse containers, the proposed height variance to accommodate rooftop access, timing for construction of garages versus sales of garage units, and the color and material choices proposed.

Council member Dyvik commented that he would be interested in seeing someone like Barry Petit provide consulting services to the City to assist the Planning Commission in their design reviews. Imihy noted that she has been assisting the Planning Commission in their design review process, interpreting the Village Design Guidelines document in the same manner as interpreting zoning code. She advised that she is very familiar with Mr. Petit's prepared guidelines, as she works with a similar set of his guidelines for her work with the City of Wayzata as well.

Council member Skjaret voiced his support for the project, but commented that there is slight but acceptable risk in having "two large eggs in one small basket".

A motion was made by Skjaret, seconded by Dyvik, to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-06 approving the request for a rezoning to a Planned Unit Development for the properties located at 1843, 1877, 1885 and 1895 Symes Street. Ayes: all.

A motion was made by Dyvik, seconded by Jerde, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-50 approving the request for a Master Development Plan for a Planned Unit Development, a Preliminary Plat, and a Variance to allowable building height for the Lakeside Row townhome community to be located at 1843, 1877, 1885 and 1895 Symes Street with the condition that the following detailed plans and information are provided prior to building permit issuance:

- 1. Detailed building elevations and floor plans, including a list of materials, and drawn to clearly show the design intent;*
- 2. Detailed utility, street, grading and drainage plans;*
- 3. The addition of a fire hydrant on Symes Street; and*
- 4. A signed development agreement and financial security is submitted.*

Ayes: all.

2040 Comprehensive Plan Progress Update, Discuss Scheduling Work Session Meeting to Review 2040 Comprehensive Plan Elements

Imihy reported on progress made by WSB in completing 2040 Comprehensive Plan chapter updates and described ongoing conversations between WSB and Metropolitan Council with regard to reviewing sections as they are completed. She suggested alternative timeframes for potentially scheduling a work session to review plan progress and particular elements in greater detail, either in December or after the first of the year.

It was the consensus of Mayor and Council that the work session be held on January 7, 2020 prior to the regular Council meeting, with a start time of 5:00 pm; and that the Planning Commission and Comprehensive Plan Task Force members should be invited to participate.

Imihy advised that upon final adoption of a 2040 Comprehensive Plan, cities have nine months to update their zoning designations and code to be consistent with their approved plans. Metropolitan Council has indicated they are taking a position that they will stop issuing SAC and WAC determinations if communities do not comply and make zoning changes within the required timeframe.

Receive "Mission and Responsibilities of the Long Lake Park Board" Statement Dated October 21, 2019

City Clerk Moeller indicated that with assistance and oversight by Public Works Director Diercks, the Park Board has dedicated their last few meetings to discuss and work towards revitalizing the Board's purpose and function. At their October 21 meeting, the Park Board approved a new "Mission and Responsibilities of the Long Lake Park Board" statement for submission to the City Council for review.

Staff recommends the City Council review the mission statement prepared by the Board and consider a motion to approve the document.

As an aside, their updated mission places a new focus on encouraging volunteerism. Related to that, at the Board's next meeting, Planning Commission member Anita Secord will be invited to their meeting to begin discussion of forming/soliciting participation in a "garden club". Council members may recall that a City goal identified previously was to recruit volunteers to establish a gardening club to help maintain landscaping and flower baskets along the Wayzata Boulevard W corridor as well as in City parks.

Ms. Secord has volunteered an active interest in working with the Park Board towards achieving that goal.

Moeller also confirmed that the Park Board will have two vacancies to be advertised as position openings, and welcomed interested residents to apply.

A motion was made by Jerde, seconded by Skjaret, to approve the "Mission and Responsibilities of the Long Lake Park Board" statement as modified and approved by the Park Board, dated October 21, 2019. Ayes: all.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting – Council member Kvale sought confirmation that a work session meeting would be held prior to the December 3 City Council meeting. Staff confirmed this was accurate.

Holbrook Park Rink Attendant Hiring – Council member Jerde questioned whether anyone had been hired yet to staff the Holbrook Park warming house/rinks. Moeller noted that no applications had yet been received; however, she had received correspondence from Orono Youth Hockey and is working to schedule a meeting to discuss partnership opportunities taking into account prioritizing public use and the need to staff the facilities.

Confirming No TIF for Lakeside Row Project – Council member Dyvik asked whether the developer had made any request for TIF to fund the Lakeside Row townhome community project. Weske confirmed that the developer has not requested TIF for either the Zvago cooperative living or Lakeside Row townhome project.

Design Review Process – Council member Dyvik noted that he did not want to offend the City's planning consultant, but emphasized the importance of implementing the Village Design Guidelines particularly in relation to the Virginia Avenue and former BP sites. Weske pointed out that ultimately, there is a subjective quality to interpreting design even when based upon a set of guidelines. Moeller referenced the Virginia Avenue and former BP sites, noting that the City owns those properties and has no obligation to sell for a project they do not deem attractive in appearance.

Retiring Lake Community Bank Employee – Council member Skjaret shared that Lake Community Bank employee Marcia Plotnik is retiring after 47 years of service, and extended his congratulations to her. He noted that the bank will be holding an all day celebration of her retirement on the following day.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk